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January 7, 2025

VIA ECF

Hon. Lewis J. Liman
United States District Court Judge
Southern District of New York
United States Courthouse
500 Pearl Street, Room 15C
New York, N.Y. 10007-1312
(212) 805-0226

Re: Juan Igartua v. Cannabis Realm of New York, LLC
Case No. 1:24-cv-06944 (LJL)
Letter Requesting Adjournment of Pretrial Conference

Dear Judge Liman,

We represent Plaintiff Juan Igartua in the above-referenced matter. We write in advance of the Initial Pretrial Conference currently scheduled for later today, January 7, 2025, at 2:00pm. To date, Defendant has not appeared or answered the Complaint.

Plaintiff initiated this action by filing a Complaint on September 13, 2024 (ECF No. 1). Defendant was served with the Complaint on September 25, 2024. On January 7, 2025, the affirmation of service reflecting said service was efiled (ECF No. 7). Based upon the service date, Defendant's Answer was due October 16, 2024, however we have not heard from Defendant or counsel since they were served.

Due to unforeseen staffing issues in our office, we did not promptly address Defendant's failure to appear, respond, or otherwise engage in this matter. Our office experienced significant disruptions following the departure of key personnel, including our lead counsel for the ADA Division and a senior paralegal, both of whom were integral to the management and prosecution of our cases. Their simultaneous departure left us without critical resources, resulting in delays in

our ability to effectively prosecute this case. Upon discovering the oversight due to the staffing issues, we took immediate steps to rectify the situation. Recognizing the gravity of the situation, we swiftly restructured our team and redistributed workloads to ensure that all pending matters, including this case, were addressed without further delay. We have now fully resolved these staffing issues and have re-established a stable and effective workflow.

Additionally, we assure the Court that the Defendant has not been prejudiced by this delay. The Defendant has not yet answered or otherwise responded to the Complaint, and no substantive proceedings have occurred that would be adversely affected by the delay. The brief postponement has allowed us to ensure that all necessary preparations are in place to proceed without further interruption.

We assure the Court that we are now prepared to comply with all deadlines and procedures henceforth.

We respectfully request an adjournment of the Initial Pretrial Conference of approximately 30 days so that our office can continue to attempt reaching the Defendant. If we are not able to reach the Defendant, then we would request leave to proceed with the default judgment process by the end of January 2025 or a date convenient for Court.

Thank you for your consideration.

The initial pretrial conference scheduled for January 7, 2025,
is adjourned to February 6, 2025 at 3PM.

Sincerely,

SO ORDERED.



LEWIS J. LIMAN
United States District Judge

January 7, 2025



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